

**United States Environmental Protection Agency
EPA New England
One Congress Street, Suite 1100
Boston, MA 02114-2023**

August 18, 2006

To: J. Kilborn, EPA
H. Inglis, EPA
R. Howell, EPA (w/o attachments)
D. Moore, USACE
K.C. Mitkevicius, USACE
S. Steenstrup, MA DEP (2 copies)
R. Bell, Esquire, MA DEP
S. Peterson, CT DEP
A. Silfer, GE
J. Novotny, GE
J.R. Bieke, Esquire, Shea & Gardner
S. Messur, BBL
D. Young, MA EOEA
K. Munney, US Fish and Wildlife
D. Mauro, META Environmental, Inc.
R. Nasman, The Berkshire Gas Company
Mayor Ruberto, City of Pittsfield
Commissioner of Public Works and Utilities, City of Pittsfield
Public Information Repositories

RE: July Monthly Report
1.5 Mile Reach Removal Action
GE-Pittsfield/Housatonic River Site

Enclosed please find the July 2006 Monthly Report for the 1.5 Mile Reach Removal Action. In accordance with the Consent Decree for the GE-Pittsfield/Housatonic River Site, the United States Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) is performing the 1.5 Mile Reach Removal Action, with General Electric funding a portion of the project through a cost sharing formula.

The EPA has entered into an agreement with the United States Army Corps of Engineers (USACE) to assist in the design and construction of the Removal Action. The USACE subsequently awarded a design-construct contract to Weston Solutions, Inc. (Weston). Weston, with several subcontractors, will be performing the design and construction activities for the 1.5 Mile Reach Removal Action.

If you have any questions, please contact me at (413) 236-0969.

Sincerely,



Dean Tagliaferro
1.5 Mile Reach Removal Action Project Manager

1. Overview

During July 2006, the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA), the United States Army Corps of Engineers (USACE), the USACE's contractor, Weston Solutions, Inc., and Weston's subcontractors continued remediation and restoration activities on the 1.5 Mile Reach Removal Action. The work included the completion of restoration activities on Parcels I9-4-25 and I9-4-203, I8-24-1, I8-24-5, I7-2-1, I7-2-20, I6-1-66, I6-1-67, I6-1-68 and I6-1-69. The removal of the access road and installation of topsoil on the west riverbank in Phase 3C downstream of the Fred Garner Park parking lot was completed. The removal of a section of the access road that led to the former Water Treatment System (WTS) pad on Parcel I8-23-6 was completed. Final restoration activities on Parcel I9-4-201 and the Fred Garner Park were initiated. Also, the upland planting on Parcels I6-1-66, I6-1-67, I6-1-68 and I6-1-69 was completed. Hydro-seeding on Parcels I6-1-66, I6-1-67 and I6-1-68 was completed. In addition, transfer of non-TSCA materials from the stockpile management areas to approved off-site facilities was performed.

2. Chronological description of tasks performed

Refer to Figure 1 (2 maps) for an orientation of the 1.5 Mile Reach Removal Action.

By the end of June, activities associated with the restoration of Parcels I9-4-25 and I9-4-203 were underway. During the month of July the restoration of Parcels I9-4-25 and I9-4-203 were completed. First, placing of the black stone driveway mix was completed then the installation of permanent chain link fencing was completed.

Also, by the end of June, final restoration activities on Parcel I8-24-5 were initiated. During the month of July, the final restoration activities on Parcel I8-24-5 were completed. First, the final grading was complete. Next, the paving was done. Pea stone was installed around the newly paved parking lot areas. Finally, permanent chain link fencing was installed on the property.

Final restoration activities on Parcels I6-1-66, I6-1-67 and I6-1-68 continued. The installation of a 6-foot high wood stockade fence along the top of the riverbank on Parcels I6-1-67 was completed. The installation of a 6-foot high chain link fence along the property boundary line between parcels I6-1-66 and I6-1-67 was completed. Also, the installation of the two Sewer Right Away (ROW) gates located at the property boundary line between Parcels I6-1-67 and I6-1-68 and on the property boundary line between Parcels I6-1-66 and I6-1-67 was completed. Per request of the property owner the site security fencing on Parcels I6-1-67 will not be removed until October 2006.

Also, during the month of July, the 2006 spring/summer planting activities continued. The planting of the hemlocks and decorative shrubs on Parcels I6-1-68 and I6-1-69 was completed. Also, the upland planting and the riverbank planting on Parcels I6-1-66 and I6-1-67 was completed. All disturbed and newly planted areas were then hand raked and hydro-seeded.

Final restoration activities on Parcel I9-4-201 were initiated. First, the removal of all debris and soil was removed from the areas that were slated for asphalt re-claiming and paving. All removed debris material was transported to Area 64. The removal of the temporary fence was completed. Next, the existing asphalt was removed and re-claimed for use as sub-grade material, the sub-grade was fine graded and excess material was removed and transported to Area 64. Then, the parking lot was paved. The installation of the topsoil around the newly installed pavement and the installation of permanent fencing are scheduled for August 2006.

The final restoration activities at the Fred Garner Park were initiated. The tree clearing and grubbing activities were completed. Also, the removal of the wood bollards from the perimeter of the park was completed. The removal of the 2-inch layer of sod in the areas within the soccer field was completed. The removed sod material was transported to Area 64 and was slated for offsite disposal. Then, the survey contractor staked out the location and the grades for the soccer field and the grading activities of the soccer field were completed. The high areas at the northwest corner of the field were cut and the cut material was used to fill in the lower area on the east side of the field. Next, the installation and grading of the sand base over the soccer field was completed. Finally, the installation and grading of the 6-inch layer of topsoil over the soccer field was initiated.

Other restoration activities during the month of July included the striping of the parking lot on Parcel I8-24-1. The installation of concrete curbing on Parcel I7-2-1 was completed. Topsoil was then added and the area between the concrete curb and the sidewalk was re-graded and seeded.

Miscellaneous repairs to the stockade fence on Parcel I7-2-44 were completed.

Also, the installation of the concrete stoop on the basement door area on the residential building on Parcel I7-2-20 was completed. Topsoil and seed were then placed around the disturbed areas of the stoop. In addition, GE contractors as part of GE floodplain remediation activities, installed a permanent 6-foot chain link fence along the property boundary line between Parcels I7-2-20 and I7-2-1.

The survey contractor initiated the as-built surveys on Parcels I9-24-1, I8-24-5, I9-4-23, I6-1-66, I6-1-67 and I6-1-68.

GE contractors, as part of their GE Floodplain Remediation activities, removed the access road along the west riverbank downstream of the Fred Garner Park parking lot in Phase 3C. The area was then restored with topsoil and seeded with herbaceous seed mix. GE was responsible to restore the areas that were contained within the GE Floodplain excavation areas and EPA was responsible to restore the remainder of the areas. Once the access roads were removed EPA contractors completed the removal of the remaining soil from the top of the riverbank in Cells 39/42. All material removed from the Cells 39/42 riverbank was transported to Area 64 and was slated for offsite disposal. The planting of trees and shrubs within those areas is scheduled to be performed in September/October 2006.

The removal of a section of the access road that led to the former WTS pad on Parcel I8-23-6 was completed. The removed material was transported to Area 64 and slated for offsite disposal.

GE contractors, as part of their GE Floodplain Remediation activities, removed the floating river barge crossing in Phase 3C. The barge sections were then decontaminated and demobilized offsite.

Also, supplemental inspections to the 2006 spring semi-annual restoration inspection and meander survey were completed on several of the permanent monitoring plots within the three 1.5 mile remediation reaches. These supplemental inspections were completed to review the plant densities in order to ensure proper performance standards were calculated.

Other miscellaneous activities performed during the month of July included the decontamination of the bin blocks and the jersey barriers. Maintenance to the silt fencing throughout the 1.5 mile remediation area continued. The offsite transportation of the sheetpile and the jersey barriers continued.

The invasive species control and the tree maintenance within the 1.5 mile remediation reaches continued. The removal of the morning glory vines and the re-setting of the tree protective cages were performed.

The non-TSCA materials from the Area 64D stockpile management areas were transported to the Waste Management of New Hampshire-TREE, Rochester, N.H. on July 20 and July 21, 2006. (See Table 1 for a summary of material transported to the Waste Management of New Hampshire-TREE, Rochester, N.H. during the month of July 2006).

During the month of July 2006, nine equipment decontamination verification samples were collected. Eight concrete characterization samples were collected on the jersey barriers and the bin blocks. Three post-removal off-site disposal characterization samples were collected from the sub-grade material (stockpiled in Area 64D north, Area 64D south and Area C south). In addition, three topsoil backfill characterization samples were collected.

Also, geotechnical samples were collected on the topsoil to be used during the restoration activities at the Fred Garner Park. The results of the geotechnical testing are not included in the monthly report but are contained in other submittals and are available upon request.

Vibration monitoring was re-started on Parcel I8-24-5 in the Transition Phase, during the restoration activities on Parcel I8-24-5. Vibration monitors were removed after restoration activities were completed.

Stockpile management area activities continued throughout the month of July.

Traffic control was conducted on as-needed basis on Pomeroy Avenue during the month of July.

3. Sampling/test results received

Table 2 contains the equipment decontamination wipe sample PCB results. The results for the eight concrete characterization samples collected on the jersey barriers and the bin blocks are presented in Table 3. The three post-removal off-site disposal characterization samples results collected from the sub-grade material (stockpiled in Area 64D north, Area 64D south and Area C south) are summarized in Table 4. Table 5 presents the three topsoil backfill characterization sample results.

4. Diagrams associated with the tasks performed

Figure 1 (2 maps) includes the layout of all excavation cells, vibration monitoring locations, access road locations, excavation load-out locations, staging area locations, fence line location, the water treatment system pad locations and the floating river barge crossing.

5. Reports received and prepared

During the month of July 2006, Weston prepared a vibration monitoring summary reports for the month of June and July 2006. During the month of June and July 2006, vibration monitoring continued to be performed on Parcel I8-24-5 in the Transition Phase, during the restoration activities on Parcel I8-24-5 and the surrounding areas. The monitoring unit was set up to collect data on the continuous seismic mode. Activities occurring near the monitoring location during this period included normal background activities and general construction activities such as grading, paving and fencing. All of the ground vibrations measured were less than the action level in the project specifications of 1.0 PPV (for structures with concrete foundations)

6. Photo documentation of activities performed

See attached photos.

7. Brief description of work to be performed in August 2006

- Complete the removal of the access roads and staging areas in Fred Garner Park.

- Continue the restoration activities in Fred Garner Park.
- Initiate the removal of the remaining access roads and restoration of Parcel I8-23-6.
- Complete the restoration activities on Parcel I9-4-201 (topsoil and fence).
- Complete the installation of a concrete sidewalk in front of Parcels I7-21-4 and I7-21-6.
- Continue to transfer non-TSCA materials from the stockpile management areas to approved off-site facilities.
- Continue stockpile management activities at Area 64.
- Continue with miscellaneous demobilization activities such as decontamination and demobilization of jersey barriers and concrete bin blocks.

8. ATTACHMENTS TO THIS REPORT

Table 1. Quantity of non-TSCA Material Transferred to Waste Management of New Hampshire-TREE, Rochester, N.H. during the month of July

Table 2. Equipment Decontamination Confirmation Wipe Sample Results

Table 3. Jersey Barriers and Bin Block Concrete Characterization Analytical Results

Table 4. Post-Removal Access Sub-Grade Debris Stockpile Characterization Analytical Results

Table 5. Backfill Material Testing Results

Figure 1- 1.5 Mile Removal Action Site Map (2 maps)

Photodocumentation

Table 1 - Quantity of non-TSCA Material Transported to Waste Management of New Hampshire-TREE, Rochester, N.H.
During the Month of July
July 2006 Monthly Report

GE-Pittsfield/Housatonic River Project 1.5 Mile Removal Action
Pittsfield, MA

(Results are reported in tons)

Date Shipped	Doc. Number	Stockpile Area	Net Weight (Tons) (1)
07/20/06	1579WMNH	sub-grade Area 64D north	29.81
07/20/06	1580WMNH	sub-grade Area 64D north	25.21
07/20/06	1581WMNH	sub-grade Area 64D north	30.56
07/20/06	1582WMNH	sub-grade Area 64D north	30.85
07/20/06	1583WMNH	sub-grade Area 64D north	31.98
07/20/06	1584WMNH	sub-grade Area 64D north	31.00
07/20/06	1585WMNH	sub-grade Area 64D north	31.86
07/20/06	1586WMNH	sub-grade Area 64D north	30.64
07/20/06	1587WMNH	sub-grade Area 64D north	31.87
07/20/06	1588WMNH	sub-grade Area 64D north	30.92
07/20/06	1589WMNH	sub-grade Area 64D north	33.77
07/20/06	1590WMNH	sub-grade Area 64D north	31.63
07/21/06	1591WMNH	sub-grade Area 64D north	32.97
07/21/06	1592WMNH	sub-grade Area 64D north	32.49
Total of Material Disposed			435.56

Notes:

- (1) Net weights established at the disposal facility.

Table 2 - Equipment Confirmatory Wipe Samples
July 2006 Monthly Report

GE-Pittsfield/Housatonic River Project 1.5 Mile Removal Action
Pittsfield, MA

(Results are presented in $\mu\text{g}/100 \text{ cm}^2$)

Sample ID	Date Collected	Aroclor 1016, 1221, 1232 & 1242	Aroclor 1248	Aroclor 1254	Aroclor 1260	Total PCBs
H2-XI000456-0-6L14	14-Jul-06	ND(0.25)	ND(0.25)	ND(0.25)	ND(0.25)	ND(0.25)
H2-XI000457-0-6L19	19-Jul-06	ND(0.25)	ND(0.25)	ND(0.25)	ND(0.25)	ND(0.25)
H2-XI000458-0-6L19	19-Jul-06	ND(0.25)	ND(0.25)	ND(0.25)	0.71	0.71
H2-XI000459-0-6L19	19-Jul-06	ND(0.25)	ND(0.25)	ND(0.25)	0.37	0.37
H2-XI000460-0-6L19	19-Jul-06	ND(0.25)	ND(0.25)	ND(0.25)	0.61	0.61
H2-XI000461-0-6L28	28-Jul-06	ND(0.25)	ND(0.43)	1.1	1.2	2.3
H2-XI000462-0-6L28	28-Jul-06	ND(0.25)	ND(0.43)	ND(0.25)	1.2	1.2
H2-XI000463-0-6L31	31-Jul-06	ND(0.25)	ND(0.25)	ND(0.25)	ND(0.25)	ND(0.25)
H2-XI000464-0-6L31	31-Jul-06	ND(0.25)	ND(0.25)	ND(0.25)	ND(0.25)	ND(0.25)

Notes:

PCB Action Level - 10.0 $\mu\text{g}/100 \text{ cm}^2$

ND(0.25) - Analyte was not detected. The value in parentheses is the associated detection limit.

J - Indicates an estimated value

Table 3 - Jersey Barrier and Bin Block Concrete Characterization Analytical Results
July 2006 Monthly Report
GE-Pittsfield/Housatonic River Project 1.5 Mile Removal Action
Pittsfield, MA

(Results are presented in part per million, ppm)

Sample ID	Date Collected	Aroclor 1016, 1221, 1232, 1242, & 1248	Aroclor 1254	Aroclor 1260	Total PCBs	% Solids
H2-OT000392-0-6L14	14-Jul-06	ND(0.017)	ND(0.017)	0.028	0.028	97.8%
H2-OT000393-0-6L14	14-Jul-06	ND(0.017)	0.038	0.057	0.095	96.3%
H2-OT000394-0-6L14	14-Jul-06	ND(0.017)	0.021	0.056	0.077	97.8%
H2-OT000395-0-6L14	14-Jul-06	ND(0.017)	ND(0.017)	ND(0.017)	ND(0.017)	95.9%
H2-OT000396-0-6L14	14-Jul-06	ND(0.017)	ND(0.017)	ND(0.017)	ND(0.017)	95.7%
H2-OT000399-0-6L31	31-Jul-06	ND(0.034)	0.170	0.220	0.390	97.3%
H2-OT000400-0-6L31	31-Jul-06	ND(0.034)	0.057	0.330	0.390	97.4%
H2-OT000401-0-6L31	31-Jul-06	ND(0.017)	0.046	0.095	0.140	96.8%

Notes:

PCB Action Level - 1.0ppm

ND(0.017) - Analyte was not detected. The value in parentheses is the associated detection limit.

J - Indicates an estimated value

ND - not detected

Table 4 - Post-Removal Sub-Grade Material Stockpile Characterization Analytical Results
July 2006 Monthly Report
GE-Pittsfield/Housatonic River Project 1.5 Mile Removal Action
Pittsfield, MA

(Results are presented in part per million, ppm)

Sample ID	H2-OT000388-0-6L05	H2-OT000397-0-6L19	H2-OT000398-0-6L26	H2-OT000398-1-6L26
Sample type	stockpile material characterization	stockpile material characterization	stockpile material characterization	stockpile material characterization
Date Collected	05-Jul-06	19-Jul-06	26-Jul-06	26-Jul-06
Stockpile Location	Area 64D north	Area 64D south	Area 64C south	Area 64C south
Analyte				
PCBS				
AROCLOR-1254	ND	4.4	0.48	0.40
AROCLOR-1260	0.38	1.6	1.3	1.5
PCB, TOTAL	0.38	6.0	1.8	1.9
INORGANICS				
PAINT FILTER LIQUIDS (ml)	ABSENT	ABSENT	ABSENT	ABSENT
PERCENT SOLIDS (%)	94.8%	90.1%	90.4%	88.5%

Notes:

Only detected constituents are summarized

J - Indicates an estimated value

ND - not detected

Table 5 - Backfill Material Testing Results
July 2006 Monthly Report

GE-Pittsfield/Housatonic River Project 1.5 Mile Removal Action
Pittsfield, MA

(Results are presented in part per million, ppm)

Sample ID	H2-OT000389-0-6L11	H2-OT000390-0-6L11	H2-OT000391-0-6L11	Regulatory Limits (1)
Sample type	Topsoil	Topsoil	Topsoil	
Date Collected	7/11/2006	7/11/2006	7/11/2006	
Analyte				
APP IX SEMIVOLATILES				
4-METHYLPHENOL	0.019 J	---	---	500
ANTHRACENE	0.064 J	---	---	1000
ACENAPHTHYLENE	0.024 J			100
BENZO(A)ANTHRACENE	0.320 J	---	---	0.7
BENZO(A)PYRENE	0.390 J	---	---	0.7
BENZO(B)FLUORANTHENE	0.400 J	---	---	0.7
BENZO(GHI)PERYLENE	0.150 J	---	---	1000
BENZO(K)FLUORANTHENE	0.410	---	---	7
BIS(2-ETHYLHEXYL) PHTHALATE	0.063 J	---	---	100
BUTYLBENZYLPHthalate	0.022 J			100
CHRYSENE	0.440 J	---	---	7
DIBENZO(A,H)ANTHRACENE	0.055 J	---	---	0.7
FLUORANTHENE	0.870	---	---	1000
FLUORENE	0.028 J			400
INDENO(1,2,3-C,D)PYRENE	0.120 J	---	---	0.7
PHENANTHRENE	0.390 J	---	---	100
PYRENE	0.580	---	---	700
APP IX VOLATILES				
2-BUTANONE	0.02	---	---	0.3
ACETONE	0.21	---	---	3
METALS				
ANTIMONY	1.5	---	---	10
ARSENIC	5.3	---	---	30
BARIUM	37.8	---	---	1000
BERYLLIUM	0.32	---	---	0.7
CHROMIUM	10.5	---	---	1000
COBALT	7.1	---	---	500
COPPER	14.9	---	---	1000
LEAD	20.7	---	---	300
MERCURY	0.041	---	---	20

Sample ID	H2-OT000389-0-6L11	H2-OT000390-0-6L11	H2-OT000391-0-6L11	Regulatory Limits (1)
Sample type	Topsoil	Topsoil	Topsoil	
Date Collected	7/11/2006	7/11/2006	7/11/2006	
Analyte				
NICKEL	12.0	---	---	300
TIN	1.7	---	---	10
VANADIUM	12.6	---	---	400
ZINC	59.4	---	---	2500
PCBS				
PCB, TOTAL	0.036	0.030	0.032	0.1*
ORGANIC				
PETROLEUM HYDROCARBON	190.0	---	---	200*

Notes:

Only detected constituents are summarized

ND - not detected

--- not sampled

J - Indicates an estimated value

(1) - Massachusetts contingency plan S-1 limits

* - Project specific acceptable levels for backfill



Photograph 1 – Restoration Activities on Parcel I8-24-5



Photograph 2 – Overview of Restored Parcel I9-4-25



Photograph 3 – Restoration Activities on Parcel I9-4-201



Photograph 4 – Restoration Activities on Parcel I9-4-201



Photograph 5 – Overview of Restored Parcel I8-24-1



Photograph 6 – Upland Planting Activities on Parcels I6-1-66, I6-1-67 and I6-1-68



07/07/2006

Photograph 7 – Upland Planting Activities on Parcels I6-1-66, I6-1-67 and I6-1-68



07/12/2006

Photograph 8 - Overview of Restored Parcels I6-1-66, I6-1-67 and I6-1-68



Photograph 9 – Removal of the River Crossing Barge in Phase 3C



Photograph 10 – Installation of the Topsoil on the Soccer Field in Fred Garner Park

LEGEND

- Roads
- Surface Water
- Access Roads
- Asphalt Access Road
- Property Lines
- Site Security Fence Line
- Work Completed
- Vibration Monitoring Locations
- Buried Electric/Telephone Line*

*Note: As-built features were located using a real time GPS unit

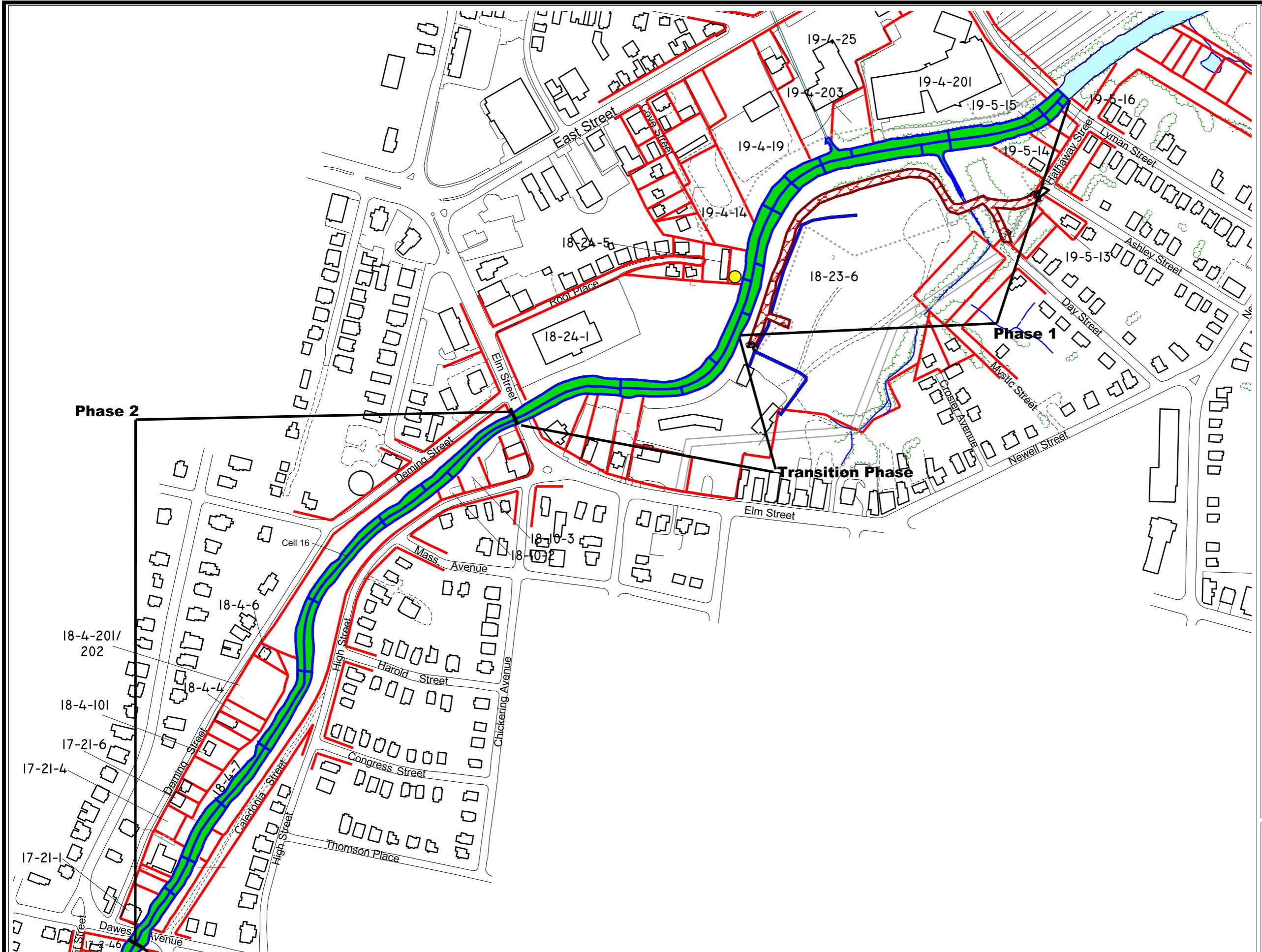


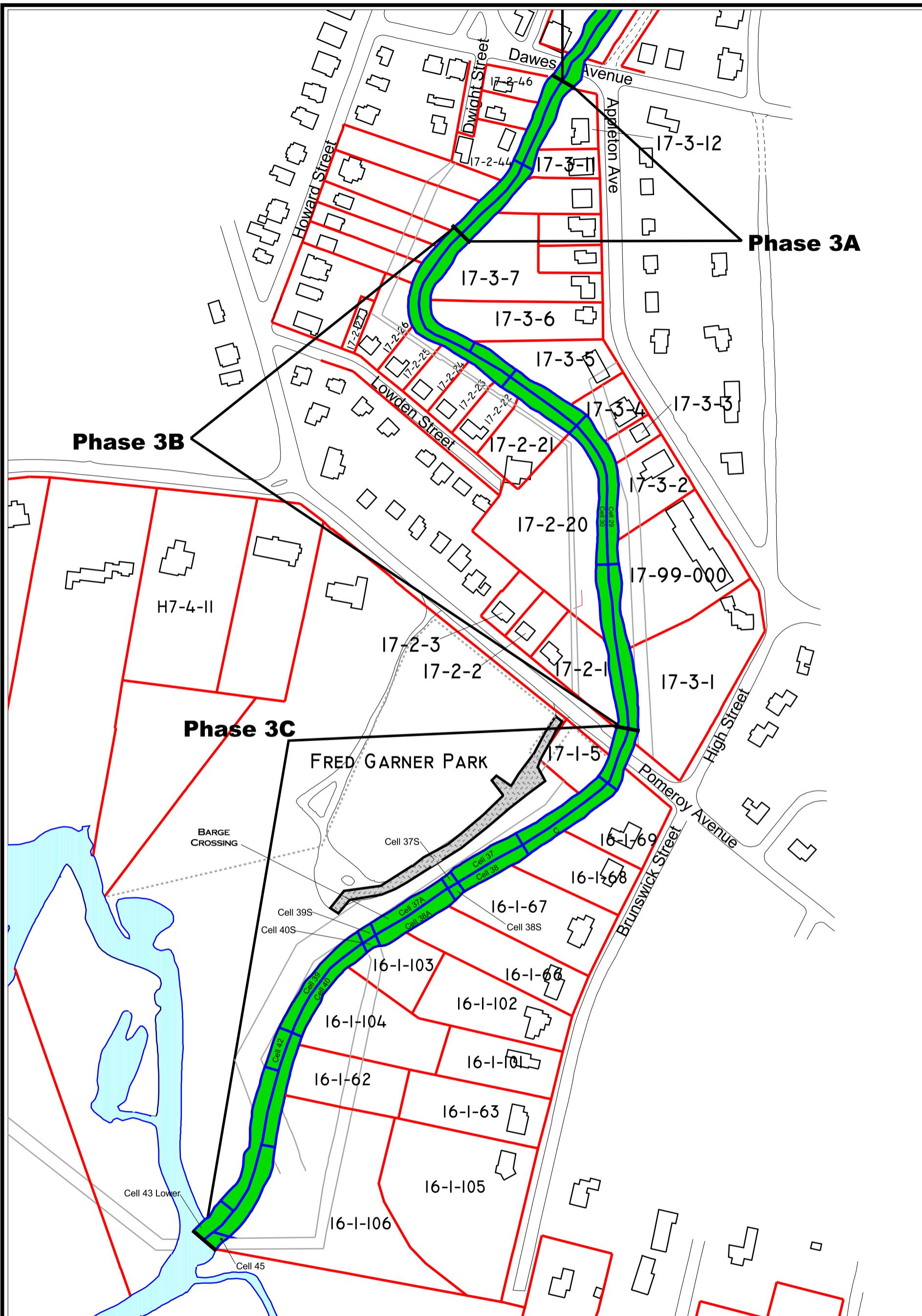
Scale in Feet

325 0 325

WESTON
SOLUTIONSSM

Figure 1
1.5 Mile Removal Action
Site Map (Map 1 of 2)
July 2006 Monthly Report





LEGEND

- Surface Water
- Access/Staging Areas
- Property Lines
- Work Completed
- ◆◆◆◆◆ Site Security Fence line
- ~~~~~ Roads

WESTON
SOLUTIONSSM

Scale in Feet

100 0 100 200

Figure 1
1.5 Mile Removal Action
Site Map (Map 2 of 2)
July 2006 Monthly Report